

# Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition

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We (I), the undersigned inventor(s), hereby declare(s) that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

We (I) believe that we are (I am) the original, first, and joint (sole) inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Use of lipoic acid for improving the bioavailability of mineral salts

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as

Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

and amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ was filed as PCT international application

Number \_\_\_\_\_

on \_\_\_\_\_,

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

We (I) hereby state that we (I) have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We (I) acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in Section 1.56 of Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations.

We (I) hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed. Prior Foreign Application(s)

| Application No. | Country | Day/Month/Year   | Priority Claimed  |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|---|
| 10032601.3      | Germany | 07 July 2000     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 10109303.9      | Germany | 26 February 2001 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

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We (I) hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Codes, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

|                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| _____<br>(Application Number) | _____<br>(Filing Date) |
| _____<br>(Application Number) | _____<br>(Filing Date) |

We (I) hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status (pending, patented, abandoned) |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____                  | _____       | _____                                 |
| _____                  | _____       | _____                                 |
| _____                  | _____       | _____                                 |

And we (I) hereby appoint **HERBERT. B. KEIL**, Registration Number 18,967; and **RUSSEL E. WEINKAUF**, Registration Number 18,495; the address of both being Messrs. Keil & Weinkauff, 1101 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (telephone 202-659-0100), our attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to sign the drawings, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith.

We (I) declare that all statements made herein of our (my) own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Signature of Inventor

Date June 13, 2001

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